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CENTRAL FAX CENTER
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
)
Trieu et al.) Before the Examiner
) Eduardo C. Robert
)
Serial No. 10/083,199)
) Group Art Unit 3732
)
Filed February 26, 2002)
) Atty Docket No. 4002-2950/PC464.00
)
FLEXIBLE SYSTEMS FOR SPINAL)
STABILIZATION AND FIXATION) March 14, 2005

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

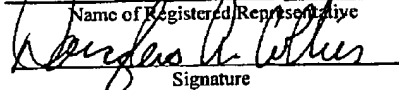
Sir:

In response to the non-Final First Office Action mailed December 13, 2004, in the above application, please consider and enter the following. No fees or extensions of time are believed due for consideration of the enclosed; however, please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any fees which may be due to deposit account 12-2424, but not including the payment of issue fees.

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Response to First Office Action
Ser. No. 10/083,199
Atty Docket No. 4002-2950/PC464.00
Page 1 of 14

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FAX COVER PAGE

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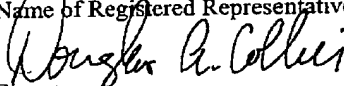
FROM: Douglas A. Collier

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FAX NUMBER: (317) 636-1507

RE: Office Action Response for 10/083,199, Attorney Docket: 4002-2950/PC464.00

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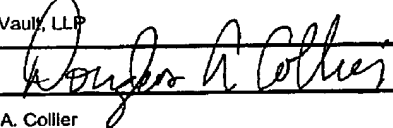
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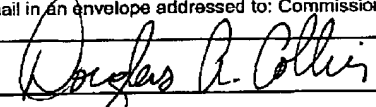
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|---|------------------------|--------------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/083,199 |
| | Filing Date | February 28, 2002 |
| | First Named Inventor | Trieu et al. |
| | Art Unit | 3732 |
| | Examiner Name | Eduardo C. Robert |
| | Attorney Docket Number | 4002-2950/PC464.00 |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 15 | |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | |
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| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | | |
|--|---|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | Krieg DeVault, LLP | | |
| Signature |  | | |
| Printed name | Douglas A. Collier | | |
| Date | March 14, 2005 | Reg. No. | 43,556 |

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| Typed or printed name | Douglas A. Collier | Date | March 14, 2005 |

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